

Message Text

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5708

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AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L IAEA VIENNA 3197

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: IAEA, AORG, UR, US

SUBJECT: INFORMAL CONSULTATION WITH SOVIET MISSION

APRIL 8

SUMMARY: ON SOVIET INITIATIVE, INFORMAL MEETING TOOK PLACE APRIL 8 BETWEEN SOVIET AND US MISOFFS. DISCUSSIONS BEGAN WITH BRIEF EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON OUTLOOK FOR APRIL 15 MEETING OF ADMINISTRATIVE & BUDGET COMMITTEE (IN WHICH SOVIETS REVEALED NO HINT OF POSITION THEY WOULD TAKE), BUT THEN EVOLVED INTO TOUR D'HORIZON, ON NUMBER OF INTERESTING ISSUES INCLUDING NEED FOR AGREEMENT AMONG SUPPLIER STATES RE SUPPLY OF FUEL REPROCESSING CAPABILITY ALTERNATIVES FOR FUNDING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE (OTHER THAN THROUGH CASH DONATION TO AGENCY) AND STEVENSON AMENDMENT. DISCUSSIONS ON HANDLING OF ARTICLE V AT MAY REVIEW CONFERENCE COVERED SEPTEL. END SUMMARY.

1. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE - IN CONTEXT OF UPCOMING MEETING OF A AND B COMMITTEE, SOV MISOFF (ANTIASOV) EXPRESSED WELL-KNOWN SOVIET VIEW THAT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDED THROUGH THE AGENCY SHOULD BE AVAILABLE ONLY TO NPT PARTIES. US MISOFF (LABOWITZ) REITERATED POINT MADE REPEATEDLY TO USSR THAT IAEA STATUTE CLEARLY PRECLUDED THE ATTACHMENT
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OF POLITICAL CONDITIONS TO ASSISTANCE FUNDED THROUGH CASH

CONTRIBUTIONS, AND THAT USG, FOR EXAMPLE, WAS ABLE TO GIVE PREFERENCE TO NPT PARTIES ONLY THROUGH ITS CONTRIBUTIONS IN-KIND, WHICH IN DOLLAR VALUE ROUGHLY EQUALED OUR CASH CONTRIBUTIONS. ANTIASOV THEN WONDERED WHETHER IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO ESTABLISH A "SPECIAL FUND", WITH NPT PARTY DONOR STATES PARTICIPATING, WHICH AGENCY WOULD BE CALLED UPON BY SUCH PARTICIPANTS TO ADMINISTER IN PROVIDING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO NPT PARTIES ONLY. THIS ARRANGEMENT WOULD BE ANALOGOUS TO PRESENT SYSTEM WHEREBY AGENCY IS EXECUTING AUTHORITY FOR FRG AND SIDA PROGRAMS. LABOWITZ REPLIED THAT US WOULD NOT LIKELY PARTICIPATE SUCH APPROACH. IN ANY EVENT, IT WOULD NEED CHECKING OUT WITH AGENCY'S LEGAL STAFF. (COMMENT: MISOFFS DISCUSSED THE IDEA (WITHOUT ATTRIBUTION) WITH STEIN, ACTING DIRECTOR OF AGENCY LEGAL STAFF, DIRECTLY AFTERWARD. STEIN'S INITIAL REACTION WAS THAT THERE WOULD APPEAR TO BE NO LEGAL OBSTACLE TO "SPECIAL FUND" APPROACH BUT IT WOULD HAVE TO BE STUDIED FURTHER; TERMS OF REFERENCE WOULD HAVE TO BE VERY CAREFULLY DRAFTED TO ENSURE THAT AGENCY ITSELF WOULD BE PROTECTED FROM CHARGES OF DISCRIMINATION. END COMMENT).

2. SUPPLIER'S AGREEMENT - ANTIASOV EXPRESSED SOME CONCERN OVER POSSIBILITY OF PROLIFERATION OF NATIONAL FUEL REPROCESSING CAPABILITIES AND ALLUDED IN PARTICULAR TO DESIRE ON PART OF REPUBLIC OF KOREA TO OBTAIN REPROCESSING PLANT FROM FRANCE. LABOWITZ REPLIED THAT ROK WAS ONLY ONE EXAMPLE OF SEVERAL WHICH HAD INSPIRED US CALL FOR STUDY OF REGIONAL REPROCESSING CENTERS; THAT SECRETARIAT DRAFT OF ROK/IAEA/France TRILATERAL SAGEGUARDS AGREEMENT, IN ADDITION TO USUAL SAFEGUARDS PROVISIONS INCLUDED FOR FIRST TIME PROVISION FOR SAFEGUARDS IN CONNECTION WITH TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY, AND MOREOVER THAT ROK HAD RECENTLY RATIFIED THE NPT. ANTIASOV RESPONDED THAT NEVERTHELESS, SPREAD OF REPROCESSING CAPABILITY ILLUSTRATED NEED FOR CONCERTED ACTION BY SUPPLIER STATES.

3. STEVENSON AMENDMENT - ALLUDING TO STEVENSON AMENDMENT (TO EXPORT ADMINISTRATION AMENDMENTS OF 1974), ANTIASOV REMARKED WITH A SMILE THAT US CONGRESS APPEARED TO HAVE DEVELOPED LIVELY INTEREST IN QUESTION OF EFFECTIVENESS OF CONFIDENTIAL

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INTERNATIONAL SAFEGUARDS. MISOFFS CONFIRMED THIS FACT, ADDING THAT MISSION HAD NOT YET SEEN PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO CONGRESS CALLED FOR IN THE LEGISLATION. PORTER

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